Horticulture Board), action has already been initiated by them for clearing four projects for setting up cold storages in the State of Karnataka.

Rehabilitation of earthquake victims in Kutch

1397. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people of Kutch observed a bandh when the Prime Minister visited the district, to protest against Government's failure to provide a satisfactory rehabilitation package for the earthquake victims; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in rehabilitation of the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The Government of Gujarat has informed that no such bandh was observed.

(b) The State Government has informed that 'ex-gratia' in case of deaths, assistance for those injured, cash doles and assistance for house-hold kits to the families and assistance for damaged houses have been paid.

Nominating officers for training to foreign institutions

1398. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government nominate officers to foreign institutions for training, for improving their academic, managerial and technical skills in various fields at the of the public exchequer;

(b) if so, the year-wise number of persons sent abroad for both the short-term and long-term training courses from the Ministry of Agriculture during the last five years;

(c) the number of persons belonging to SC/ST categories among such persons and their percentage; and